

Cleanup of the Island End River Proposed

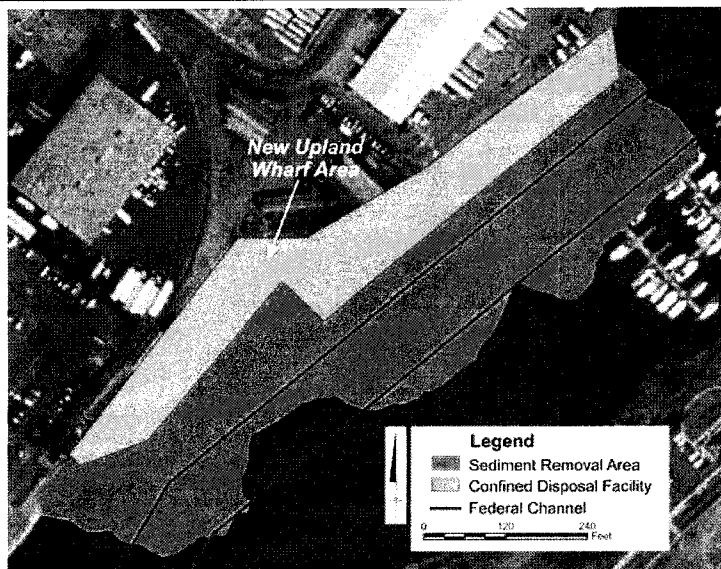
Beazer East, Inc., Honeywell International Inc., and KeySpan Corporation submitted a report to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MADEP) in January 2005 describing a recommended approach to address impacted sediments and improve the waterfront adjacent to the site of a former coal tar processing facility in Everett. Applying MADEP's criteria for detailed evaluation of alternative remedial approaches, the companies' proposed approach achieves the best balance of effectiveness, reliability, risks, benefits, and costs, among other factors.

The primary objectives of the cleanup effort are to:

- Meet the requirements of Massachusetts' environmental cleanup program (the Massachusetts Contingency Plan), and
- Eliminate or minimize the formation of sheens on the surface of the Island End River associated with impacted sediments.

The proposed cleanup, which is currently being reviewed by the MADEP, includes:

- Dredging approximately 72,000 cubic yards of impacted sediment from the Island End River.
- Building a Confined Disposal Facility, or CDF, along the western shoreline. This facility would have sturdy metal walls designed to prevent contaminants from moving from the land to the river and provide a secure location to dispose of most of the dredged sediments (52,000 cubic yards).
- Disposing about 20,000 cubic yards of impacted sediments at a licensed commercial landfill outside the area.
- Monitoring water and air quality as well as noise levels during construction to make sure the work is conducted in accordance with applicable health, safety, and environmental standards.



Confined Disposal Facility: The confined disposal facility will improve the waterfront near the former coal tar processing facility. The alternative to a CDF, trucking all removed sediment to an off-site disposal facility, would require 50 large trucks on a daily basis to travel through Everett to and from the project site. Isolating the most heavily impacted sediments within the CDF, rather than dredging and removing them, minimizes the risk of resuspending contaminants within the river and provides the greatest long-term potential for minimizing sheen formation. Once constructed, the CDF can serve as an expanded area for marine industrial use in the Designated Port Area, provide additional docking space, and, in conjunction with the adjacent dredging, improve navigation in the northern end of the river.

Pilot Dredging Project: The proposed cleanup is based on the results of a pilot dredging project conducted in the Island End River in September 2004. Those results confirmed that limited dredging of impacted sediments could be an effective and efficient approach to address sediments adjacent to the former coal tar processing facility. The potential impacts of sediment dredging (noise and effects on air and water quality) were carefully studied during the pilot project. The information gathered will be used to complete the detailed engineering design of the proposed cleanup.

The proposed cleanup will result in a number of benefits at the Island End River Waterfront and in the Island End River, including:

- Improved environmental conditions within the Island End River;
- The CDF, to be located within the Designated Port Area, will provide improved and expanded industrial waterfront property, creating enough space for two barges to dock, and enlarging and enhancing the useable land area; and
- A significant decrease in the occurrence of sheens on the surface of the river.

Next Steps:

- Design and permitting process is underway and will continue throughout 2005.
- Construction is scheduled for spring of 2006.
- The proposed cleanup is estimated to last approximately one year, assuming timely regulatory approvals.